

Appl. No. 10/615,167
Amdt Dated: March 22, 2007
Reply to Office Action of December 22, 2006

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Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A ~~voice-over-Internet protocol~~ Voice-over-Internet Protocol (VoIP) device, comprising:

a subscriber line interface circuit serving as an interface for communications with a telephone;

a relay selectively coupled to a ~~public switched telephone network~~ Public Switched Telephone Network (PSTN) or coupled to a VoIP network through the subscriber line interface circuit;

a processor coupled to the subscriber line interface circuit to determine whether a transmission from the telephone through the subscriber line interface circuit is a PSTN phone number or a VoIP phone number, wherein when the transmission is a VoIP phone number, the processor routes the transmission to the VoIP network, and when the transmission is a PSTN phone number, the processor instructs the subscriber line interface circuit to generate a ~~dual-tone multi-frequency~~ Dual-Tone Multi-Frequency (DTMF) redial number; and

a ~~dual-tone multi-frequency~~ DTMF coupling circuit coupled between the subscriber line interface circuit and the ~~public switched telephone network~~ PSTN for receiving the ~~dual-tone multi-frequency~~ DTMF redial number from the subscriber line interface circuit when the transmission is determined as a PSTN phone number, and routing the ~~dual-tone multi-frequency~~ DTMF redial number to the ~~public switched telephone network~~ PSTN.

Claim 2 (currently amended): The ~~voice-over-Internet protocol~~ Voice-over-Internet Protocol device of claim 1, wherein the ~~dual-tone multi-frequency~~ DTMF coupling circuit comprises:

a switching element having a first terminal and a second terminal and controlled by the processor, wherein the switching element is turned on by the processor when the transmission is

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determined as a PSTN phone number;

a first coupling device coupled between the subscriber line interface circuit and the first terminal of the switching element for receiving the ~~dual-tone multi frequency~~ DTMF redial number from the subscriber line interface circuit; and

a second coupling device coupled between the second terminal of the switching element and the ~~public switched telephone network~~ PSTN for routing the ~~dual-tone multi frequency~~ DTMF redial number to the ~~public switched telephone network~~ PSTN when the switching element is turned on.

Claim 3 (currently amended): The ~~voice-over-Internet protocol~~ Voice-over-Internet Protocol device of claim 2, wherein the first coupling device is a capacitor.

Claim 4 (currently amended): The ~~voice-over-Internet protocol~~ Voice-over-Internet Protocol device of claim 2, wherein the second coupling device is a transformer.

Claim 5 (currently amended): The ~~voice-over-Internet protocol~~ Voice-over-Internet Protocol device of claim 2, wherein the switching element is a transistor.

Claim 6 (currently amended): The ~~voice-over-Internet protocol~~ Voice-over-Internet Protocol device of claim 1, further comprising a data access arrangement for detecting the status of the ~~public switched telephone network~~ PSTN and instructing the relay to allow the ~~dual-tone multi frequency~~ DTMF coupling circuit to transmit the ~~dual-tone multi frequency~~ DTMF redial number to the ~~public switched telephone network~~ PSTN when the ~~public switched telephone network~~ PSTN is not busy.

Claim 7 (new): The Voice-over-Internet Protocol device of claim 1, wherein the processor determines the transmission from the telephone as a VoIP phone number when the transmission is a common telephone number, and determines the transmission from the telephone as a PSTN phone number when the transmission is an important or emergency telephone number.